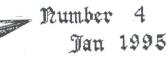
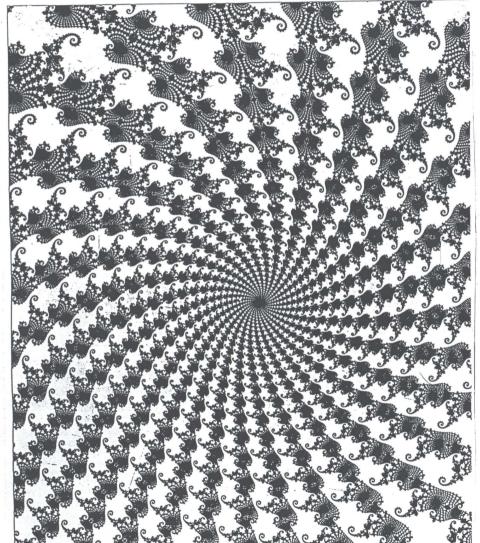
# Strange Days

A Journal of UFPlogy



NORTHERN UFO RESEARCH

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NORTH EAST CASES; UFO PHOT

UFO PHOTOGRAPHED; INTE

INTERSTELLAR TRAVEL;

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REVIEWS.

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### INVESTIGATIONS >>>

send Please information any relating to UFO sightings or investigations to: Gloria Dixon. 14 Longhirst Drive, Woodlands Park, Wideopen, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE13 6JW.

Any contributions to the magazine or monies sent to the editorial address will be acknowledged by a card, letter or phone call. So if you send something and hear nothing, blame the Post Office.

Ouestion: What is STRANGE DAYS ?

Answer: It is a small magazine/newsletter written by, and for, those interested in UFOs, primarily in the North East.

O. What it its function?

091 236 8375.

A. The original intention of Strange Days was to provide a means of communication between the members of NUFORI and to provide a place where members could get their thoughts, theories and ideas printed.

However, Strange Days is open to anyone who wishes to write in with their thoughts, comments or complaints regarding the subject of UFOs or related "Fortean" phenomena.

- Q. How often is it produced?
- A. About once every four months, depending upon how many people contribute and whether or not we need to pass on information to all of the members.
- Q. How much does it cost?
- A. It varies, depending upon how many pages are in each issue, and the price of photocopying. This is a non-profitmaking venture, so you only get charged for the cost of copying and postage.
- Q. How can I get hold of it?
- A. Send £1.00 for each future issue you want. Send money in cash, stamps, P.O.s or cheques payable to D.A.Newton to the Editorial Address. After the costs have been calculated, any excess money will be refunded. And I can't say fairer than that, Guv.

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# Strange

### STRANGE DAYS No 4 (Jan 1995)

]	Editorial3
1	Notices and News4
1	North East Case ReportsPeter Nelson5
1	Sarah Jones7
	J.M9
I	Rare UFO book found10
	Faster than Light: Interstellar travel11
F	Reviews16
Ι	Letters "A new theory of abductions?"22
	Conference details: Southampton UFO Group
	BUFORA

### EDITORIAL.

CONTENTS

Welcome to 1995! Now that Strange Days has made it to Number 4, I have no doubt that it will run for many issues into the future. I can hardly believe that I was rushing around with glue and scissors back in 1993 trying to produce No 1 before the end of the year — it really does seem like yesterday.

1994 was a good year for us, and a mixed year for UFOlogy in general. Because of the increased media coverage, many important new cases came to light, none more impressive than the case of "Steve Robbins" as documented in the last edition of Strange Days. Also in the last twelve months Philip Mantle's "Without Consent" was published, including our North East case of Mik Burley. Yes, 1994 was a busy year for us.

1994 also saw a large quantity of brown matter hit the fan regarding Jenny Randles, BUFORA and a quality publication called the 'News of the World'. For the sake of British UFOlogy, let us hope that this unpleasantness is quickly forgotten.

In this first issue of 1995 you will find a report on Peter Nelson's UFO sighting and the photographs he managed to take, the strange experience of Sarah Jones and her brother, an article on how interstellar travel is a feasible idea and all the other usual bits and pieces. Although Sarah Jones' experience is not directly related to UFOs, I believe it is important. As more cases come in I become ever more convinced that close encounter events have nothing to do with aliens, but everything to do with paranormal events. In case after case, we find that the witnesses have also experienced a whole catalogue of bizarre and (currently) inexplicable events.

I hope you enjoy this issue, and I look forwards to bringing to you another twelve months of fascinating UFOlogy.

Dave Newton, Editor.

NOTICES and NEWS .... Of the local and global kind.

NEXT MEETING: Due to the truly breathtaking apathy shown by many of the members of NUFORI, there will be NO meeting on Saturday 28th January. Will those people who are still interested please contact Gloria Dixon, and we can arrange to meet up.

aware of. First of all, for those prepared to travel, is the Southampton UFO Group's conference, to be held in Portsmouth on 22nd April. Also coming up is BUFORA's 8th International UFO Congress, to be held in Sheffield on the 19th and 20th August. Further details of these events can be found in the back two pages of this magazine. Conferences are informative and good fun, usually, so do try to get along to one of them.

BUFORA PICTURE LIBRARY: This is a self funded project for the rescue and preserv—ation of documentary material. 50% of any revenue from the commercial use of the material will come to the contributor. Sounds like a good deal — so if you have anything interesting in the way of slides, photos, videos or artwork, why not let the B.P.L. look after it?

Contact Philip Mantle at the address given on the conference details.

NEW UFO GROUP: Readers of The Journal and the Evening Chronicle may have read about the formation of a new UFO group. The "North-East Unident-ified Flying Object Reporters Magazine" has recently been formed by Andy Temple and Stephen Ede, who are based in Gateshead. Said Temple, in The Journal (12/12/94)

"I believe 80pc of UFOs are alien craft and there may even be bases on Earth."

If this sounds like your thing, contact Andy Temple on 091 490 1370.

An American kit company, The Testor Corporation, has released a UFO kit based on one of the alleged objects seen at Area 51. The model comes complete with a grey alien and a military security guard. (Omni, October 1994).

A new film on alien abductions is currently being made in Hollywood called "Contact". It will feature actress Jodie Foster. (TV Times, 12th November 1994).

A new video has just been released in the U.S. called "The Area 51 Video Guide". It claims to tell the viewers the best vantage points in the Nevada desert to see the UFOs! (UFO, Sept/Oct 1994).

Watch out for a new album by techno dance band Eat Static called "Implant". It features tracks on a UFO theme including "Area 51" and "Abnormal Interference".

BLUE BOOK DISCOVERY: An American investigator has discovered that Project Blue
Book was not the first destination for UFO reports. In
fact they were sent to an organisation called the Air Intelligence Service Squadron
(A.I.S.S.) based at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. (UFO Universe, Fall 1994).

### NORTH EAST CASE REPORTS:

STRANGE NIGHTS by Gloria Dixon.

Witness: Peter Nelson.

Place: Bellingham, Northumberland.

Date: 21/8/94.

Peter Nelson had retired to bed on the evening of Sunday 21st August, when his alarm system went off. It was 11.35 pm and Peter got out of his bed and checked the house and garden. There appeared to be no problem with intruders, but when checking the garden he looked up at the night sky and noticed a bright object travelling in an Easterly direction and moving quite slowly. He went into the rear garden to have a closer look as it came over the Tyne Valley, and he could see a glowing outline of what he described as a coppery coloured dome shape. It moved slowly along the valley towards the River Tyne, and then it changed direction and headed North. Peter describes his sighting in the following way:

"I could hardly believe what I was looking at. As it came closer I could feel the air pulsating and was aware of ozone in the air. The hairs on my arms started to bristle. As I watched the object, I remembered there was some film left in my camera, so I went into the house to get the camera and shouted for my daughter Mary-Anne to come and see the object. I took five photographs of it. The bright light on the bottom of the disc slowly got brighter and it accelerated at great speed to the North."

Peter's observation time was approximately twelve minutes, and he describes the object as being larger than the full moon. It was a clear, dry and mild night with no cloud cover. This object was also observed by five other people West of Ovington at about 11.30 pm on the same night.

The Hexham Courant and the Evening Chronicle carried articles about this sighting and Phil Mantle called me to tell me that photographs had been taken by Peter Nelson. I contacted Peter and he very kindly came to see me bringing the negatives and his camera with him. The camera and the negatives were examined by David Newton.

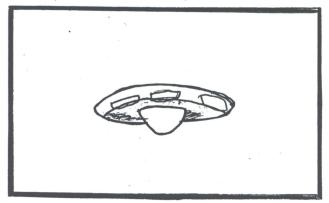
The photograph of the UFO shows a coppery dome shaped object with a light emanating from underneath, and the moon is clearly visible. The object seen by the other witnesses is described by them as an orangey-yellow colour in two parts hovering above the trees, a few miles west of Ovington.

Peter was visited in September by two military officials, who claimed to be from RAF Prestwick, and arrived in a black Volvo. They briefly showed Peter some identification and asked many questions pertaining to the object he had observed. They also asked for the negatives. However, the negatives were in my possession at the time and Peter gave them a copy of the photograph of the UFO. They were interested to know about the sound, movement and height of the object and the approximate distance from which Peter had observed it. The men spent over an hour with Peter and then they went down to the golf course nearby, where they

used binoculars and appeared to be looking around. Peter has since told me that both he and his daughter felt that their conversation was being taped.

The Otterburn Army Range is in close proximity to Peter's home and he and his daughter are used to seeing military activity around the area on a regular basis. Apparently there is going to be a large military base there in the future and there has been a great deal of objection to this from residents in the area.

The photograph has now been sent to a consultant in photographic analysis for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) in the United States. I will give you an update on this as and when I receive any information from BUFORA.



Copy of a drawing by Peter Nelson of the object he saw.

Analysis of Peter Nelson's Photographs by Dave Newton.

Peter Nelson took the photographs with a simple Hanimex 35mm camera loaded with "Klick" 200 ASA colour print film. The camera has two fixed lenses, a wide angle lens of focal length approximately 35mm, and a "telephoto" lens of focal length approximately 70mm.

The most impressive of the photographs is 35A, the "UFO" photograph. This shot shows the full moon, and to the right of it patches of red and orange light with a "jet" of yellow-white light squirting out underneath. Luckily the moon is in the shot, so we have an object of known size and brightness against which we can measure the UFO. Unfortunately, the moon is slightly blurred, so the image of the UFO is also distorted. The image on the film could represent the body of the UFO (assuming it was a solid flying machine, which the eyewitness testimony does point to). More likely though, given the dark conditions and the short exposure time, frame 35A shows the hot, glowing gas being emitted from a jet or rocket engine.

The preceding photograph, 34A, also shows two puzzling red lights. These lights look similar to sodium street lamps, but their colour is a deep red rather than the sodium lamp yellow. Thus, there is a strong possibility that these lights are the image of lamps carried by the UFO.

It is impossible to determine at the present time exactly what manner of

aircraft Peter Nelson has captured on film. Hopefully the analysis of the film in the U.S. will reveal more information. But for the time being, this remains an Unidentified Flying Object.

### EVEN STRANGER NIGHTS by Gloria Dixon.

I was contacted by a Sarah Jones from Peterlee, who told me of an incident that she and her brother Simon experienced just before Christmas about 1979. Sarah was four years old at the time and Simon was seven. They lived in a two bedroomed house in Horden, County Durham, which was then a mining village. Below, Sarah describes what happened one night:

"I was about four years old when the most terrifying incident happened. I shared a bedroom with my brother, who is three and a half years older than myself. This particular night/morning (it was the very early hours, though I don't remember a date) my brother asked me to go downstairs with him to get a drink. He'd kept us both awake during the night due to a cold he had and wanted a drink to help him stop coughing. Reluctantly I agreed to go downstairs with him, though only because I was scared to be left in our room alone. We got out of our bed, switched on the light, and stepped out onto the small landing. It was only when we reached the top of the stairs and were about to descend that we saw what was on it's way up the stairs!

"At the bottom with one "foot" on one stair, the other on the next stair and it's left "hand" on the bannister, was a creature which could most aptly be described as a "werewolf". It was the size of an average man, maybe taller and covered in dark fur with large slanted green eyes which seemed to glow. Both of us ran back to our room after standing paralysed by fear. We huddled together screaming hysterically until we woke our parents up who made a tour of inspection and reported that there was nothing there."

Simon's account of this experience differs slightly in that he remembers the creature's eyes glowing red and he believes that it had either ears or horns. Simon goes on to say, in his account of this experience, that there were stories at the same time of a "werewolf", seen by another child in the cellar of his home.

Sarah had other unusual experiences during her childhood before the "werewolf" encounter. Apparently, as a child, she was always terrified of the stairs and the area outside her parents bedroom. She said that she would get out of bed in the very early hours, fully conscious, and walk to the top of the stairs in the dark. This would normally be an extremely frightening ordeal for Sarah, then aged four. However, on these particular occasions she would be totally relaxed and fearless, and once she reached the stairs she says,

"I would simply lift my feet and sit in an invisible chair, as I always called it, and float down the stairs. Sometimes instead of sitting, I would leap as if there was no gravity and land softly halfway down the stairs."

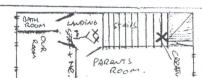
Sarah stresses that she was not sleepwalking and that she was fully awake.

She could never understand why she was floating down the stairs, but always enjoyed it. She recalls her disappointment that she could never float back up the stairs and that she always had to walk back up!

Sarah has also experienced two other recurring "dreams", as a child, one reminiscent of the UFO reports currently occurring, and the other a shared dream experience with her mother.



FLOORPLAN OF THE UPSTAIRS INCLUDING THE POSITIONS OP MY SISTER, THE CREATURE AND MYSELF.



\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

An aquaintance of Sarah also sent me a brief outline of something that happened to her and a friend, when they were children. She describes here what happened to her:

"I think I was about six or seven at the time. I remember my best friend and I were walking home from our local shop. We both just stopped in our tracks and gazed before us.

"There was a small figure mid-air, about six feet away from us. I think the figure was maybe two feet tall. Although it was child-like in size, its appearance seemed older, but like in miniature. Its skin was pallid and it looked nimble. I can't really recall if the image moved after we saw it. I only remember it hovering somehow. Over the years and thinking back to that time I always think of the figure as a kind of "Peter Pan", like the fictional character."

### IDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS.

Place: Gateshead. Date: 31/1/94.

J.M. reported that at 2.30 pm she was in the lounge of her home and her mother was in the garden, when she came rushing into the house to draw J.M.'s attention to strange objects flying in the sky. J.M. went into the garden and saw what she described as eight to ten round flat objects flying in the sky. J.M. gives the following description:

"They were silver on the top and dark/black on the base. I noticed them from just past the house flying toward the bottom of the garden in a manner whereby they showed the top (silver) and then the base, sort of flying up at the front and then down at the front. They weren't flying in any order or pattern. My mother and I watched until they eventually disappeared from view into the clouds. The duration of the event lasted approximately forty seconds. They were flying about as high as the moon is in the sky." [?]

J.M. states that there was no sound and says the objects were not quite as bright as the moon. I have spoken with J.M. on several occasions and she feels strongly that she and her mother saw something that they could not identify.

There is, however, an extremely strong possibility that J.M. and her mother were observing a group of birds in flight. Dave and I are in agreement on the solution to this sighting, turning these UFOs into IFOs. I would like to give Dave's evaluation below:

"From the short duration of this sighting, the disordered pattern of the objects and their individual motions, I strongly suspect that this sighting was of a small group of birds. If a group of large birds (e.g. geese) were flying moderately high (cloud level) and fast, it is quite possible that the Sun could catch their upper halves producing strong, bright reflections. The brightness of this reflection, and the distance involved could prevent the witnesses from

seeing any structure in the objects (the head, wings, etc.). Between wing beats, the birds would fall slightly giving the "zig zag" motion."

A brief point to recognise here is how difficult it is to estimate the height of an object, without any familiar landmark to judge it by, hence the height of the objects is compared to that of the moon.

Editor's note: Some readers may not agree with our explanation of this UFO

sighting. If anyone does come up with an alternative interpretation of the event described above, we would be interested to hear it. However, I do feel that this is a low-strangeness report that can be explained as a misinterpretation of something mundane. - D.N.

### RARE UFO BOOK FOUND - Craig Carl Jackson.

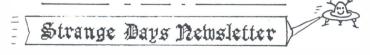
In my research and reading I have come across many references to a certain book entitled "The Report on Unidentified [Flying] Objects" by Edward J. Ruppelt. Ruppelt was head of Project Bluebook in the early 1950s, the title being based on papers used in US colleges for difficult test questions. After leaving the USAF he wrote his book on UFOs in 1956 and in it claimed that there was a cover up of the facts. He revealed how the Air Force played up the explainable sightings but ridiculed and repressed information on objects they could not identify. Ruppelt was dismayed and annoyed by this attitude, and he states these facts in the text.

In 1959 the book was reprinted and the controversial sections were changed, and Ruppelt's views then came in line with the USAF, discounting all the UFO sightings and evidence. What changed his mind? Was it pressure from the Air Force, the CIA or the FBI? No definite reason was ever forthcoming and Ruppelt said no more on the subject until his death in the 1960s.

The 1956 version is very rare, and I thought I would never be able to read this intriguing tome. Last August I visited the Newcastle central library, and to my utter amazement a copy of the 1956 work was held in the reference section. Surprisingly, my request to borrow the book for home study was granted.

The book covers some classic cases including the Washington DC sightings in 1952 and the green fireballs studied under Project Twinkle. Each line gave an insight into the workings of Project Bluebook and the stonewalling which took place repeatedly from Pentagon sources when Ruppelt tried to get information on any UFO case.

I firmly believe that some agency persuaded him to change his mind. The truth resides in the pages of this first-edition book and I would strongly recommend anyone interested obtain a copy and discover the <u>real</u> story from someone who actually lived it.



### FASTER THAN LIGHT: Interstellar Travel in the New Physics. by D.A. Newton.

At the beginning of this century two scientific theories quickly emerged from the ruins of the Newtonian world view, and changed forever the science of physics: Relativity and Quantum theory. Of these theories, Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity is the most well known. Most people have heard of E=mc², the Twins Paradox or Time Dilation, even if they don't understand what these terms mean. But General Relativity, Einstein's later theory, and Quantum theory are little known by the general populace. And even physicists, after all these years, are still making new discoveries in the fields of General Relativity (G.R.) and Quantum Mechanics (Q.M.).

The possibility of **time travel** has been circulating in scientific circles for some years now, and has even gained a certain respectability. Last year Scientific American carried an article on "The Quantum Physics of Time Travel" explaining the paradoxes that can arise when time travel is allowed. The popular American magazine Astronomy carried an article entitled "Tunnels through Time" back in 1992. The Daily Telegraph, last September, ran an article by Dr Michio Kaku of the City University, New York, explaining how all we need to do to travel in time is harness a huge energy source; we have all the equations we need. Seven Jenny Randles has a book out at the moment on time travel.

Most of these ideas for time machines rely on what objects called wormholes. These are tunnels that connect two regions of space and time. By travelling through a wormhole, you can go from A to B without passing through any point in between. Handy as this is, wormholes are not easy to find and manage. But in theory at least, it can be done. Black holes can be used as wormholes, and miniature quantum wormholes also exist according to theory. Some mechanism could possible be devised to stretch a quantum wormhole into a usable macroscopic wormhole.

While travelling through time seems to be all the rage at the moment, there is also the other exciting possibility: travelling vast distances in short periods of time. Relativity shows us that space and time are not separate quantities. The equations deal with spacetime. Not only is time travel possible in theory, but so is travelling faster than light.

But hold on. Doesn't relativity forbid anything from travelling faster than light? Yes, Special relativity does. But as the name suggests, Special Relativity is a special case. It deals only with flat, Euclidian spacetime and inertial frames of reference. Neither exist in nature. Matter and energy bend spacetime, and when you deal with huge amounts of matter and strong gravitational fields (such as in a black hole) all sorts of wonderful things become possible.

### Spacetime travel through black holes.

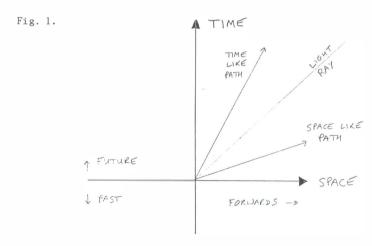
Black holes are regions of space where the gravitational field is so strong that even light is not fast enough to escape, i.e. the escape velocity from the surface of the object is higher than  $3 \times 10^8$  m/s. Black holes are formed when

matter is crushed unbelievably high densities. Tiny black holes are thought to have formed in the moments after the Big Bang when the density of the primeval universe was high enough for them to be created. Large black holes are formed when stars collapse after their nuclear fuel runs out. The entire mass of the star rushes inwards under the force of gravity and gets crushed in the centre forming a black hole. Since light cannot escape, the object appears to be black. What goes on inside the hole is unknown, and unknowable. The surface of the hole, from beyond which there is no return, is called the event horizon. The simplest type of black hole is the non-rotating, electrically uncharged variety called the Schwarzschild black hole. It can be shown that the radius of the black hole, in metres, is given by

(1) 
$$r = \frac{2 \text{ G M}}{c^2}$$
 where G = universal gravitational constant 
$$6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2 \text{kg}^{-2} ;$$
 M = mass of the hole, kg; 
$$c = \text{velocity of light, } 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s.}$$

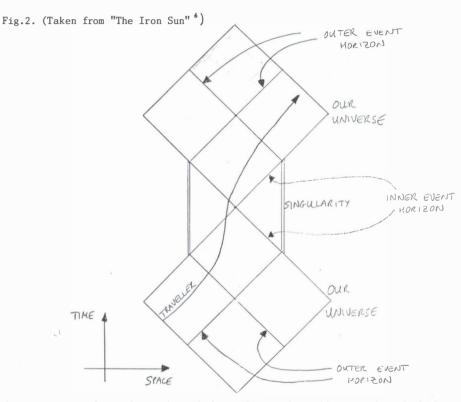
A ten solar mass black hole would then yield a black hole 60km across. Schwarzschild black holes are thought to be exceedingly rare, if not impossible, in nature. The reason is because all stars and objects are rotating to some degree, and as the star shrinks as it collapses, it spins more and more rapidly. These rotating black holes are called Kerr black holes. The only three quantities not destroyed by a black hole are mass, charge and angular momentum. Because of "centrifugal force" (more properly called centripetal force), the rotation causes the black hole to flatten out into the shape of a L.P. record. It is these spinning black discs that allow us to travel vast distances of spacetime.

An explanation for how this is possible exists in the Kruskal diagram of a Kerr black hole. Kruskal diagrams are maps of space and time, showing time on one axis and distances through space along the other axis, as in figure 1.



Units are usually chosen so that a ray of light passes at 45° to the axes, also shown on figure 1. Since journeys faster than light are not permitted, all motion must be closer to the time axis than the path of the light ray. Possible journeys are called "time-like". Impossible, faster than light jouneys are called "space-like". The Kruskal diagram of a Kerr black hole is shown in figure 2. The reasoning behind it is complex, and the reader is referred to the original article by R.H. Boyer and R.W. Lindquist. 5

One of the peculiarities of a Kerr black hole is that the event horizon splits into two parts — an inner and an outer event horizon.



An astronaut taking the path marked on figure 2 would pass through both event horizons, but avoid being crushed in the central singularity. He would vanish from this region of the universe, and reappear instantly somewhere else. (This is only possible with a Kerr black hole. In a Schwarzschild black hole, anything that crosses the event horizon is lost forever.) The traveller would put his craft in orbit around the edge of the rotating black disc and match his rotational speed to that of the hole. With a 10 solar mass hole, he would see a rectangular gateway about 600m in height. If the traveller can steer his ship through this narrow opening into the black hole, he can travel the Universe.

One problem with this type of travel (aside from navigation!) is in finding the correct type of black hole. The large ones needed for travel are rare, and one would need to create a means of interstellar travel to find them! The alternative would be to create a suitable black hole — a feat that is beyond us at the present time.

For a more in depth look at black holes and their potential for interstellar travel, the reader is recommended to look at two books, "The Iron Sun" by Adrian Berry $^6$  and "Black Holes" by J-P Luminet $^7$ .

### Star Trek for Real - The "Warp Drive".

An alternative approach to faster than light travel was recently proposed by Miguel Alcubierre at the University of Wales. In a paper to the specialist journal Classical and Quantum Gravity last year, he outlined a mechanism by which a journey could be made in an arbitrarily short time. The idea behind this mechanism stems from the "inflationary phase" of the early universe, the time just after the big bang when spacetime expanded much more rapidly than the speed of light. If you can imagine a balloon that is being inflated, imagine that there are two dots painted on the balloon. The dots will move away from each other, but neither dot is moving. The separation of the dots comes from the expansion of the balloon. In the universe today we see that galaxies are rushing apart from each other as spacetime is still expanding after the big bang.

The trick now is to create an engine that will warp spacetime (either shrink or expand it) in such a way that it will propel the spacecraft in the intended direction. The engine must create a local distortion in the spacetime around the spacecraft, producing an expansion behind the ship and a contraction ahead of it. The ship and a small region of space will than "surf" along the distortion, towards the intended destination.

Those without any knowledge of G.R. had best skip this next section, as the mathematics of General Relativity is very complicated.

The spacetime shape that we will need is described in the language of General Relativity. The metric of spacetime can be written as  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

$$ds^{2} = -dT^{2}$$

$$= g_{\alpha\beta} dx^{\alpha} dx^{\beta}$$

$$= -(\alpha^{2} - \beta_{i}\beta^{i}) dt^{2} + 2\beta_{i} dx^{i} dt$$

$$+ \gamma_{ij} dx^{i} dx^{j}$$
(3)

Standard G.R. symbols are used throughout. To avoid excess length, those people unfamiliar with the G.R. equations are advised to look at any introductory text

on G.R., such as Dirac's excellent "General Theory of Relativity".

The values needed to let the spaceship "surf" along can be chosen:

$$\beta^{x} = -V_{s}(t) + (r_{s}(t))$$
 (5)

$$\beta^{y} = \beta^{z} = 0 \tag{6}$$

$$\Upsilon_{ij} = S_{ij}$$

where

$$V_s(t) = \frac{dx_s(t)}{dt}, \quad \Gamma_s(t) = \left[ \left( x - x_s(t) \right)^2 + y^2 + z^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and f is the function 
$$f(r_s) = \frac{\tanh(\sigma(r_s + R)) - \tanh(\sigma(r_s - R))}{2 \tanh(\sigma R)}$$

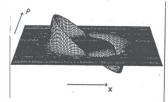
R and  $\sigma$  are arbitrary parameters with values bigger than zero. The coordinates have been chosen so that the craft will move only along the x axis, to simplify matters. The spacetime metric (3) can be rewritten now as

The expansion  $\theta$  of the volume elements of spacetime around the ship is given by

$$\theta = V_s \frac{x_s}{r_s} \frac{df}{dr_s} . \qquad (9)$$

A plot of this function shows the wave of expansion and contraction around the spacecraft and its flat central region (figure 3). While moving under "warp drive" the astronauts are in free fall and experience no time dilation or special relativistic effects. The journey time can be made as small as you like by altering the size of the spacetime distortion.

Fig.3. (From Class. Quantum Grav. 8)



At the present time the technology needed to make a warp engine of this sort does not exist. The metric required breaks the so called weak, dominant and strong energy considerations. To get around this, as with using wormholes for travel, exotic forms of matter are required. But although banned by classical physics, quantum field theory may allow such types of matter to exist, and warp engines may one day be built.

### CONSEQUENCES FOR UFOLOGY.

As shown above, mechanisms for hyper-fast travel are possible in theory. If General Relativity and Quantum Theory are as reliable as we think they are, then it is only a matter of time before the technology catches up with the science. The question is: Just how much time will it take?

If our present theories are correct, any sufficiently advanced technological civilization could commute between star systems or even between galaxies in very short spaces of time.

This eliminates one of the classic objections to the extraterrestrial hypothesis, that because faster-than-light travel is forbidden, interstellar voyages are impractical. If an alien race has the neccessary technology, the vast distances between the stars are no longer an obstacle to interstellar travel. Does this make the E.T.H. any more likely? I will leave that to the reader to decide.

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- 8. Miguel Alcubierre: "The Warp Drive: Hyper-fast travel within General Relativity" Classical and Quantum Gravity, 11 (1994), L73 77.
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REVIEWS! Of all sorts of things... (Reviews by the Editor unless otherwise stated.)

### Event: The NUFORI Christmas Party.

This involved the editor, Craig and a large quantity of ale. A good time was had by all, but the exact details are a little hazy. Does anyone volunteer for regression hypnosis?

VIDEO REVIEW: "Masters Of The Stars" (Genesis Three Productions, 1994).

Running Time: 75 Minutes.

A stunning new tape of home video recording unusual aerial craft seen in the sky over Mexico City. The UFOs on this tape are just amazing to see; rotating spheres, silver discs, white glowing craft and many others make this a gripping programme from start to finish. The production team have also carried out experiments with weather balloons to see if they match the unknown objects. They plainly do not. Digital enhancement techniques are also used to eliminate Venus as a possible UFO on a daylight recording.

The best is kept for last: a daylight sighting captured on tape of at least 17 UFOs hovering one above the other. A truly breathtaking sight.

A superb and engrossing video which, I think, contains some of the best UFO footage ever seen.

### - Craig C. Jackson.

### <u>UFO Magazine - Quest Publications, 1994.</u>

A glossy, colourful mag which leans heavily towards the extraterrestrial hypothesis. This may not be such a bad thing as all points of view are equally valid on this subject. The best feature in the current issue (Vol13 Issue 2) just has to be the resolving of the Kecksburg UFO incident which has taken almost thirty years to explain. Well researched and written, this is "UFO Magazine" at its best. It also contains a very good feature on the Aurora project and stealth aircraft which are often mistaken for UFOs.

Although it does have its faults (using a controversial photo of a Gulf Breeze UFO on the cover) the articles are always interesting and informative, I thoroughly recommend it.

- Craig C. Jackson.

### Fortean Times No77 (October/November 1994)

Plenty of worldwide weirdness, as usual, but not much related to UFOs in this issue. There are articles on "Holy spirit fever", the Tizzie-Wizzie - a flying hedgehog, bogus social workers, and an interview with Sophia Richmond aka Sister Marie Gabriel. She became a minor celebrity last summer when she predicted that Comet Shoemaker Levy 9 would collide with Jupiter and produce a fireball which would destroy the world. Which obviously didn't happen. Hmmm.

### Fortean Times No78 (Dec/Jan 95)

Not much UFOlogically, except for an excellent piece by Dennis Stacy giving the updated story of the Roswell UFO Crash bach in 1947. Nearly 48 years old, this is the case that just won't go away.

### Strange Times Voll Nol

A fairly large glossy magazine, which mysteriously appeared here in Strange Towers. Come on, own up...we know it belongs to somebody. It is very nicely laid out with large colour pictures, and the contents cover a huge range of subjects: UFOs and U.S. presidents; Uri Geller; The face on Mars; past lives; OOBEs (out of body experiences); alien abductions; predictions; Peter Sellers and spirit influences; book reviews - this seems to cover everything! Strange times costs

£1.95 and appears monthly, although I have not seen it in any shops and there is no date on issue one so I have no idea how old it is.

### Strange Magazine No 13.

This magazine is trying hard to be an American version of Fortean Times. I don't think it is quite up to the standard of F.T. (yet) but it is definitely worth having a read of. The subject matter is similar to F.T., covering strange events, UFOs, cryptozoology, etc. This issue covers Martian mysteries, Bigfoot, UFOs and witchcraft, and a huge review section. It also includes part 2 of an article by Nigel Watson on the mystery airships seen over Britain before World War 1. Contact Strange Magazine at P.O. Box 2246, Rockville, Maryland 20847. This issue cost £3.50.

### International UFO Library Magazine June/July 1994.

A good magazine for supporters of the extraterrestrial hypothesis. Plenty of fascinating articles on ancient astronauts, what the Dead Sea Scrolls really say, UFO encounters on the Moon involving U.S. astronauts, how to resist alien abductions [personally, I would recommend the use of Holy Water and an Uzi], and Quest's own Tony Dodd on ancient astronauts, abductions and a set of ancient plates. These things allegedly are able to project holograms and seemingly prove alien involvement in the Earth's history. I'll believe it when I see it, but somehow I don't thing these plates will ever see the light of day. I do hope someone will prove me wrong. This issue also includes an article on the "X-Files" T.V. series and an interview with Patrick Stewart, Captain of the Next Generation's Starship Enterprise. This issue cost US\$4.95, and is available from P.O. Box 461116 Escondido, CA 92046 - 9892, U.S.A.

### Northern UFO News No166 (Summer 1994)

Jenny Randles' own magazine featuring brief case notes, book reviews, news, and articles on The New UFOlogist and UFOs in the Public Eye. No166 is well worth reading if only to hear Jenny Randles' version of what happened between her, BUFORA and the News of the World.

### OVNI October 1994

The newsletter of the Phenomenon Research Association. 10 A4 pages in this issue, seven and a bit of which are taken up with the Leeds UFO Conference which took place in September. It also includes some news, reviews and a guide to the night sky (very useful!). The November issue includes a review of a David Icke lecture in Derby and photographs of the spectacular "web" crop circle at Avebury last summer. The December issue is a little shorter, with some interesting Swedish

cases. OVNI costs £1.00 per issue and appears monthly. Write to: P.R.A., 12 Tilton Grove, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 4GR.

### Southampton UFO Group Newsletter (Monthly)

This newsletter includes an exhaustive breakdown of UFO and related articles which have appeared recently in the media, with some news, UFO sightings and short reviews. Each issue also includes an impressive and useful breakdown and running total of articles in their press cutting collection - handy for research. This monthly newsletter costs £5.00 per year (inc. postage) and is available from 25 Weston Grove Road, Woolston, Southampton S019 9EE.

### Promises and Disappointments Issue 1.

Many thanks to Kevin McClure, who sent me this gem of a magazine with the simple message attached "Would you like to exchange?" You bet! This is a great little mag (32 pages, A5 sized) containing much that I wholeheartedly disagree with, alongside articles that I pretty much agree with totally. This first issue contains articles by Martin Kottmeyer ("The Curse of the Space Mummies") and Robin Ramsay (on conspiracy theories), and plenty from Kevin McClure - including his "quite aggressive" book reviews.

His first review rips into Philip Mantle's "Without Consent", saying that "80% of the content is written in the style of 'Diana in Love'" and that "The title's the only really useful part of this book." And then the title gets a solid bashing from Mr McClure at the end of the review! While I would agree with Mr McClure in some of his criticisms (I too was hoping for a more scholarly work with information about the investigators and the hypnosis sessions. I am also unhappy with the non-hypnosis cases being relegated to the "possible files", the implication being that fantastic tales, dragged out of a person's subconscious while in a highly suggestible state, are more credible than cases where the details are consciously remembered), I think McClure has missed the point of this work: I don't believe "Without Consent" was ever intended to be a scholarly, exhaustive analysis of alien abductions (despite the subtitle of "A comprehensive survey of missing time and abduction phenomena in the U.K.); It is a taster, a storybook of the best British cases, an introduction to this puzzling phenomenon. And in this capacity, I think the book works very well.

Since I am unfamiliar with most of the cases in this book and their investigators, I cannot say whether "...the witnesses have been treated any more carefully than are their accounts" except in one case, that of Mik Burley, where Gloria Dixon and myself were the investigators. If Mr McClure would like to satisfy himself that the case was handled in a sensitive and proper manner, then he is welcome to inspect the voluminous case notes and interview transcripts. We do not use hypnosis.

The New UFOlogist also gets a bashing. McClure doesn't "want to read Paul

Devereux praising the work of Terence McKenna, who recommends the use of hallucinogenic drugs as a method of 'meeting with the alien', or any more implausible Earthlights theories". Well sorry, but I think Devereux writes more sense than most, and if hallucinogens can shed some light on alien encounters then I want to know about it. Hell, I want to <a href="try">try</a> it! McClure also wonders why we report on animal mutilations and crop circles. Let's think about it...Hmmm. Probably because (a) they have been linked to UFOs in the past, and (b) they are strange phenomena. (At what point does the UFO phenomenon stop, and other Fortean phenomena start, anyway? Time and again we see that UFO events, particularly close encounters, are linked to paranormal phenomena.)

If Charles Fort were alive today, I'm sure he'd be interested in them anyway. In fact, the next time I feel a bout of drug induced channeling coming on, I'll ask him.\* As for the New UFOlogist, McClure wants a "journal at the leading edge... Something that will take thinking and understanding forward...and lead us on and away from Roswell, Hopkins [Amen], Persinger and Moulton Howe." And so say all of us.

Plenty here to digest and argue over, and some very nice touches, too ("As many as six impossible things"). I recommend this to all of our readers, so go on, splash out, it's a New Year. £2.00 per issue, or £7.50 for four, from Kevin McClure, 42 Victoria Road, Mount Charles, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 40D.

\* Humour. For those unfamiliar with the concept, do not take this comment seriously.

### Weird Night on BBC2

An evening packed with Forteana, but not much on UFOs. It was worth watching just for the Fortean review of the year and the three short Strange Days programmes featuring ordinary people describing strange happenings. (The one I liked best was the man who answered the public phone box, and on the other end was a colleague at work who wanted to speak to him! She had tried to call him at home, but had accidentally dialled his payroll number instead, which was coincidentally the number of the call box he was walking past.)

Also included in Weird Night was a documentary drama on urban myths called W.S.H. (Weird S\*\*\* Happens), an episode of the "X-Files", and a discussion on the weird with Jenny Randles, James Randi, psychic agony aunt Lynn Picknett (who I think, surprisingly, came over better than anyone else) along with Fortean Times editor Bob Rickard and two academics.

W.S.H.? You better believe it.

### Video: Richard Hoagland - The Moon-Mars Connection.

A video of Richard Hoagland's lecture at Ohio State University in June 1994 in which he presented evidence that an ancient civilization (presumably) built a now ruined city on the moon. Hoagland's evidence consists of computer enhanced

NASA photographs of the moon, revealing strange spikes and structures in the Sinus Medii region of our Moon. Hoagland believes these are artificial.

While I was very impressed with his "Face on Mars" work (let's face it, that thing is <u>weird</u>), I think Hoagland has a tendency to read too much into what he sees, and I am much less convinced by this lunar "evidence". The moon is a strange place, and there are bigger lunar mysteries than Sinus Medii.

Why would anyone want to build a glass domed city on the lunar surface, as Hoagland suggests? It's a crazy idea! With no atmosphere, micrometeorites would be continually punching holes through it. It would make sense for lunar cities to be built underground where the meteorites and lethal Solar radiation cannot penetrate. There may be alien structures on the moon, but I think Hoagland is looking in the wrong places. He has been pushing image enhancement as far as it will go on these old Apollo and lunar Orbiter and Surveyor photographs. I would be very surprized if anomalies did not turn up on a few of them. Film defects? Possibly. What we need now is for the moon to be mapped in detail, and we will be able to see if Hoagland's structures really exist.

Now that's handy! The Clementine space probe has recently mapped the surface of the moon, and the U.S. Defence Department have just released all 1.8 million images for all to see\*. And when all the analysing has finally been done, I strongly suspect Richard Hoagland will have a considerable quantity of egg on his face.

\* The U.S. Naval Research Laboratory has opened all 1.8 million Clementine images to anyone with access to the Internet. The files can be reached through the World Wide Web from the laboratory's home page. The address is http://www.nrl.navy.mil. Any e-mail questions or comments can be sent to webmaster@nrl.navy.mil.

### Horizon - BBC2, Monday 28/11/94.

This was an investigation into alien abductions by Dr Sue Blackmore. Budd Hopkins, David Jacobs and John Mack all had their say, so no-one could say it wasn't balanced. Dr Blackmore sat in Michael Persinger's scary chair and had virtual monsters tugging at her legs. Very impressive, but can these complex brain stimuli occur naturally and generate abduction reports? Remember, Persinger needs a computer to do it in the lab. I don't think the scars and physical traces can be dismissed quite as easily as Dr Blackmore did in the programme, either.

On the whole, though, I thought this was a pretty fair assessment of the field of abduction research. Surprizingly good, in fact, for a T.V. programme.

### Strange But True - ITV, Friday 9/12/94

Presented by Michael Aspel, this was a half hour programme on the strange goings on in Rendlesham Forest many Christmases ago. Another intelligent and well balanced Ţ.V. programme dealing with UFOs! Do not adjust your set, reality is

at fault.

Apart from missing out the alleged meeting between aliens and USAF officials, the programme covered almost all of the events that happened in the woods that night. One question remains: Of all the places in the U.K. to choose from, why oh why did the UFO have to pick on an American air base?

### The New UFOlogist No2

The second issue of the New UFOlogist has just turned up, this time bearing a pleasantly textured analypeta cover. This issue includes more articles by Jenny Randles, Paul Fuller and Albert Budden (this time trying to force a UFO event near Stonehenge into his "allergies" theory) plus an eye opening article by Neil Nixon on the UFO "cover up" and how market forces affect the media.

I also enjoy rooting through the pages to find the "Jenny Randles did it first" snippet. In Issue 1 it was pointed out how Philip Mantle's "Without Consent" was not the first British investigation into alien abductions — both Jenny and John Spencer had written books on abductions before. In this issue, it mentions that Philip Mantle, working on a new book, advertised in the T.V. Times for celebrities to tell him their UFO stories. It then points out that Jenny Randles did it first with "Phantoms of the Soap Operas". I do hope this becomes a regular feature.\*

It is a shame that both issues so far have only been 32 pages long. The articles that have appeared so far have been of the highest quality and deserve to be read by all serious UFOlogists. With time and care, this could become THE UFO journal to read — and I think it is on the right path. The New UFOlogist is published quarterly, and costs £8.00 for a one year subscription. Write to The New UFOlogist, 71 Knight Avenue, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8PY.

\* Sarcasm? Not at all. I do enjoy these little touches.

### LETTERS : Please send all letters to the Editorial address.

Sir/

Many thanks for the latest issue of "Strange Days", once again a superb read. There are however a number of points which I think I should mention.

- 1. You are quite correct, it is "Project Galileo" and not "Project Gallieo". A spelling mistake sorry.
- 2. Regarding the MJ-12 piece I realise now that the Special Executive Order 092447 could be a reference to the day of publication. I was unaware of this at the time of writing thanks for pointing that out.
- 3. The case in which video cameras were set up in a field, mentioned by Tony Dodd at the Halt Lecture This surveillance was done because of multiple cattle

mutilations which had been going on for some time in that particular field. The farmer wanted to find out the cause. The results were the farmer missing time, more cattle mutilated and a strange image on the video tape.

I hope this clears up a few points.

Yours,

Craig C. Jackson.

Editor: Thanks, Craig. I am still trying to remember where I read that Special Executive Order 092447 was referring to a date. It't one of those things where, when someone points it out, you go "Of course!" 092447 sure does look like a date.

As for the cattle mutilation case, I would definitely like to see the tape and find out more about these events.

### A New Theory of Alien Abductions?

Sir/

May I say how entertaining and informative I find your small publication. I thought that you might be interested to hear my new theory regarding UFOs and abductions. Having studied the phenomenon for some time, it occurs to me that several things are self-evidently true. Firstly, in many cases the UFOs seen are highly advanced craft of some type. True, many UFOs are misperceptions of mundane objects; but there are many excellent reports of objects that can only be alien spaceships or time machines. Secondly, alien abductions are precisely that. There are so many identical reports that abductions cannot be psychological in origin. And what about the scars and the implants?

But why are there so many abductions? And why are the memories so badly hidden? It is to these sticky problems that I believe I have the solutions.

Humans are being subjected to basic genetic experiments and medical examinations in vast numbers. This is not because these simple procedures are vital to our or the aliens survival. No, we are merely part of the syllabus of some alien "A" level Biology syllabus - Exobiology 101, if you like. Every year, tens of thousands of alien students each select a suitable human subject to operate on and learn about. They probably do it to many different species on many different planets, just as our own students dissect fish, rats, locusts and cockroaches. Cattle mutilations would seem to suggest that they take an interest in other species here on Earth, too. They probably do not mutilate humans as this would draw too much attention. Genuine crop circles and the Australian saucer nests may indicate that they are also interested in plant life as well.

On the one hand, they have no wish to alert us to their experiments. But on the other, the sheer number of abductees makes it impossible for them to place anything more than a quick and rudimentary memory block in each abductee's mind.

Thinking more speculatively, we all know that the Earth is a green and pleasant place. And I am sure that we all know what students are like. Is it really so

surprising that some of them come back and buzz us for fun every now and again? Perhaps also the Earth is used for flying saucer "driving tests"? This could explain the strange manoeuvres they make and the number of saucers that are seen to be in trouble. They let all of the learning and accidents take place here, before they let the new pilots fly on their home planet!

I think that you will find my theory is the only one that fits all of the available facts. This is nothing more than a brief outline of my theory and I am currently working on a longer document. If anyone would like to write to me about these ideas, I would appreciate the feedback.

Yours,

Dr Maurice Traveller.

Editor: Thank you for your contribution to the UFO debate. Here is my feedback. This is unprovable, unscientific nonsense. Dr Traveller does not say in what subject he obtained his doctorate, so I can only assume that these days you can get a PhD in talking out of your backside. If anyone would like to write to Dr Traveller, please write to him via the Editorial address.

### In memory of Stuart P. Smith (Stu) over one year on.

Remember in the Winter,

Far beneath the bitter snow,

Lies a seed.

That with the Sun's love.

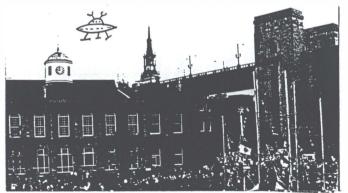
In the Spring,

Becomes...the rose...

(Verse from "The Rose", as sung by Bette Midler)

You are dearly missed and forever remembered by your friends and colleagues.

- Gloria.



Happy New Year! Best vishes to all our readers Dive Alewton



# 1995 ONE DAY UFO CONFERENCE

**22nd APRIL 1995** 

WARBLINGTON SECONDARY SCHOOL

PORTSMOUTH.

10AM - 4PM

## GUEST SPEAKERS:

BUSTY TAYLOR.

GORDON MILLINGTON (SIGAP).

ROY LAKE (LONDON UFO STUDIES).

MALCOLM TERRY (ANDOVER GROUP).

For more details contact:

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Steve Gerrard





### British UFO Research Association

### FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

# 8th INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS UFO's:EXAMINING THE EVIDENCE

The 8th International UFO Congress organised by the British UFO Research Association, will take place at the University of Hallam, Pennine Theatre, Sheffield, South Yorkshire. The Congress will take place over the weekend of August 19 & 20, 1995.

The 1995 Congress will be in honour of Mr Walter Andrus, International Director of the Mutual UFO Network. Mr Andrus will conduct the opening and closing ceremonies and he will be the recipient of a special presentation on behalf of BUFORA for his services to ufology.

The provisional line-up of speakers at this years Congress is probably one of the most interesting for many years. As you will see below the Congress is indeed international in every sense of the word.

### Provisional line-up of speakers:

Dr Leo Sprinkle (USA), Vicente-Juan Ballester-Olmos (Spain), Jiles Hamilton (USA), Per Andersen (Denmark), Malcolm Robinson (Scotland), Cynthia Hind (Zimbahwe), Peter Robbins (USA), Maurizio Verga (Italy), Dr Helmut Lammer (Austria), John Carpenter (USA), John Spencer (England).

### Special Announcement:

We sincerely hope, after many years of trying, to have at this years Congress the first Russian scientist to lecture on the UFO subject anywhere in the UK. Dr Sergey Chernouss is a senior research assistant at the Polar Geophysical Institute in Murmansk, Russia. Dr Chernouss's field of scientific study is atmospheric physics and optical studies of aurora and other atmospheric phenomenon. He has been a member of the Russian Academy and has studied the UFO phenomenon since 1978. It is only the lack of finance that is preventing Dr Chernouss speaking at the Congress. Dr Chernouss is hopeful that he will be able to resolve this problem in the near future.

### The Venue:

The Pennine Theatre at the University of Hallam in Sheffield is a purpose-built high-tech lecture theatre that is ideal for our needs. Air conditioned and comfortable and centrally situated in the heart of Sheffield. Accommodation at a nearby hotel and a special Congress buffet has also been organised.

For full Congress details and a Congress booking form please send a large SAE to: Congress 95, 1 Woodhall Drive, Batley, West Yorkshire, England, WF17 75W.

The organisers reserve the right to alter any and all aspects of the Congress without prior notification.  $\cdot$